



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/572,844	03/21/2006	Fabien M.J. Guillorit	US030361	3679
24737	7590	04/01/2009	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			FEATHERSTONE, MARK D	
P.O. BOX 3001			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			2423	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/01/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/572,844	Applicant(s) GUILLORIT, FABIEN M.J.
	Examiner MARK D. FEATHERSTONE	Art Unit 2423

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2009.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,3-13,15,17 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1, 3-13, 15, and 17-18 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/26/2009 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. Response to amendment filed 1/26/2009. Claims 1, 5, 9, and 17-18 have been amended. Claims 2, 14, and 16 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-13, 15, and 17-18 are pending.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-13, and 17-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Examiner notes that independent claim 15 has not been amended, and that applicant has not set forth any arguments regarding the rejection of claim 15. Examiner maintains the rejection of claim 15 as previously set forth in the final office action dated 10/21/2008.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ellis, US Patent # 6357043.

With regard to claim 15, Ellis discloses:

A controller for controlling an on-screen display of an electronic program guide (Figures 3 & 4 and column 10, lines 61-64), and controller comprising an access switch for accessing said electronic program guide (column 13, lines 60-65; Ellis discloses a "mode" button to invoke the program guide); and navigation switches for navigation through said electronic program guide (column 14, lines 14-20; Ellis describes using the up/down keys to navigate throughout the program guide); said electronic program guide comprising: a channel list of available channels (Figure 20, items 20A, 20B, 20C; and column 18, lines 14-17); and a program list of programs which is displayed concurrently with said channel list in response to selection of a selected channel from said available channels, said programs being exclusively associated with said selected channel (Figure 20 and column 18, lines 17-19) wherein said channel list is provided in response to a first activation of said access switch (column 13, lines 60-65; Ellis describes a "mode" button to invoke the program guide, which

contains a channel list), and both said channel list and said program list are provided in response to a second activation of said access switch, or in response to activation of a program switch of said controller (column 18, lines 7-10; Ellis describes a triangular icon that invokes the menu that displays programs associated with a particular channel, see also Fig. 20).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 3-13, and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellis, US Patent # 6357043, in view of Vogel, US Patent # 5253066.

With regard to claim 1, Ellis discloses:

A device configured to receive an electronic program guide, said electronic program guide comprising:

A channel list of available channels (Figure 20, items 20A, 20B, 20C; and column 18, lines 14-17); and

A program list of programs which is displayed concurrently with said channel list in response to selection of a selected channel from said available channels, said

programs being exclusively associated with said selected channel (Figure 20 and column 18, lines 17-19).

Ellis discloses a controller for controlling access to the electronic programming guide (Figures 3 & 4 and column 10, lines 61-64), however fails specifically disclose:

a processor for processing said electronic program guide and for causing said device to display said electronic program guide; and a controller for controlling said processor to cause said device to display said channel list of said electronic program guide in response to an initial activation of said electronic program guide by said accessing means, and wherein said accessing means controls said processor to cause said device to display both said channel list and said program list are provided in response said accessing means accessing said programs list.

In an analogous art, Vogel discloses a channel guide (figure 3) that is presented to the user. The channel guide is presented to the user as a list of channels (channel 2, channel 3 across the top) and the related programs that are scheduled on the particular channel). The user can scroll horizontally to select more channels, or vertically to see more programs associated with the selected channel (column 5, lines 13-37). As described in the cited passage, this channel guide is directly invoked by pressing the "program" button on the remote control of figure 2, corresponding to causing said device to display said channel list in response to an initial activation of said electronic program guide accessing means. Furthermore, Vogel specifically discloses a microprocessor that

executes the commands of the IR remote 112 (figure 1, item 104, and column 3, lines 46-50). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Vogel to invoke the channel guide in response to a user command invoked via a remote control to the system of Ellis that displays a channel specific guide, thus reducing the number of steps necessary to display the guide to the user.

With regard to claim 3, Ellis further discloses wherein said program list includes times associated with said programs and/or an identifier (Figure 20; Program start times are displayed), said identifier including a current time and or said selected channel (column 18, lines 19-20; Ellis describes a highlighted channel, which channel listings are displayed for)

With regard to claim 4, Ellis further discloses the EPG comprising an information list which is displayed concurrently with said channel list and said program list, said information list including data associated with said selected program, said data including description, rating and/or repeat indication of said selected program (Figure 20, item 203 and column 18, lines 40-50; Ellis describes an "i" icon, which is shown concurrently with the program listing, and contains information about the program such as description)

With regard to claim 5, Ellis further discloses, wherein said information list is displayed in response to said controller selecting a selected program from said programs or in response to activation of an open switch while a cursor highlights said selected program (column 18, lines 40-50; Ellis describes, that after

selecting a program from the list, the user can press the "i" button on the remote to get more information about the program)

With regard to claim 6, Ellis further discloses wherein said program list includes a reminder switch configured to set reminders for said programs, and/or a theme switch configured to open a theme menu, said theme menu including information categorized by themes for said available channels and/or said selected channel (column 4, lines 10-12; Ellis discloses the ability to set reminders)

With regard to claim 7, Ellis further discloses wherein said device further comprises an interface for navigating through said electronic program guide, said interface including at least one of:
an open switch configured to open menus including said program list (column 13, lines 60-65; Ellis discloses depressing a "mode" switch to enter the browse mode of programming listings);
a close switch configured to close menus including said channel list and said program list; and (column 14, lines 53-55; Ellis discloses pressing the "Browse icon key" while in browse mode to exit the mode)
a help switch configured to open a help menu, said help menu including help information related to use of said guide and/or a controller of said program guide (column 12, lines 12-19; Ellis describes a help function)

With regard to claim 8, Ellis further discloses wherein said controller is a remote controller (column 12, lines 12-19; Ellis describes using a remote

controller to invoke the help feature, which would enable the user to gain information on how to use the controller to navigate the program guide)

With regard to claim 9, Ellis further discloses wherein said accessing means includes a switch to access said electronic program guide, an up switch and a down switch; said up switch and said down switch being configured to respectively scroll a cursor up and down said channel list and/or said program list (column 29, lines 1-4; Ellis discloses the ability to move through the list by pressing the up/down keys on the remote control)

With regard to claim 10, Ellis further discloses wherein said up switch and said down switch are configured to scroll by pages (column 17, lines 39-44; Ellis describes scrolling by pages using the up/down switch on the remote control)

With regard to claim 11, Ellis further discloses wherein said up switch and said down switch are configured to respectively move said cursor to a top or a bottom of said channel list and/or said program list and thereafter scroll by pages (column 17, lines 39-44; Ellis describes moving the cursor to the bottom of the screen and then invoking the up/down keys to scroll by pages)

With regard to claim 12, Ellis further discloses wherein said up switch and said down switch are respectively configured to singularly move said cursor up and down entries of said channel list and/or said program list (column 29, lines 1-4; Ellis discloses the ability to move through the list by pressing the up/down keys on the remote control to arrive at a desired channel)

With regard to claim 13, Ellis further discloses wherein said controller includes a right switch and a left switch configured to move said cursor between said channel list and said program list (column 11, lines Ellis describes the use of right/left arrow keys, that allow the user to browse through a particular channel's programs; in column 18, lines 19-20, Ellis describes a mode wherein the listings are associated with a particular channel. The user inherently could scroll through the listings in the same way by pressing the down arrow key to move from the channel list to the program list, and using the left/right arrow keys to navigate through the programs/times associated with the selected channel; this feature is also described in Vogel, column 5, lines 29-38)

Claim 17 is the processor configured to invoke the program guide of claim 1, and is analyzed and rejected accordingly.

Claim 18 is analyzed and rejected accordingly as the method of system claim 1, and is analyzed and rejected accordingly.

Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARK D. FEATHERSTONE whose telephone number is (571)270-3750. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM M-F US Eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Koenig, can be reached on (571) 272-7296. The

fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

E-Signed

/Mark Featherstone/ - Assistant Examiner

/Andrew Y Koenig/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2423